Uplinking facilities for foreign telecast companies

2395. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently decided to allow uplinking facilities for foreign telecast companies into India;

(b) if so, whether any terms and conditions have been fixed in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether permission to foreign companies for uplinking facilities would have any impact on Indian companies or Doordarshan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) As per new uplinking policy approved by the Government, a private company incorporated in India with a maximum permissible foreign equity of 49% (including NRI/OCB/FIO as in case of telecom sector) can set up an uplinking hub (Teleport) for leasing or hiring out to broadcasters. Any TV channel, irrespective of its equity structure or ownership or management control can uplink from India subject to necessary security clearance and compliance with the programme and advertisement codes. Other terms and conditions, inter-alia, include obligation to provide monitoring facilities, compliance with security related conditions, to keep record of uplinked material for a period of 90 days, to carry out uplinking in C-band only, etc. .

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Doesn't arise.